

HONORING THE LATE DONALD C.
DONALDSON

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2000

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Donald C. Donaldson, a man who dedicated more than thirty-five years of his life to federal service, who died on December, 12, 1999.

Mr. Donaldson was born on May 27, 1922, in Akron, Ohio. He lived through the Great Depression and went on to attend Akron University, where he enrolled in the ROTC program. The following year, in August of 1941, he enlisted as an Aviation Cadet in the Navy Reserve V-5 program. He was enlisted in the Naval Cadet Program at NACSB in Detroit. He went through flight preparation schools and graduated from Naval Air Training Command in Pensacola, FL, in 1944. This period in Mr. Donaldson's life was signified by his realization of his life's passion, which was to fly airplanes.

Mr. Donaldson subsequently accepted a commission in the United States Marine Corps as 2nd Lt. and took his oath of office on May 13, 1944. At this time he also received his Civil Aeronautics Administration Certificate for single engine aircraft. He served in the Pacific Theater of World War II, and at the end of the war, he was stationed in Okinawa. Afterwards, he returned to a reserve squadron in Akron.

2nd Lt. Donaldson worked tirelessly to become qualified on an astounding number of airplanes. He was certified to fly more than forty different aircraft at the end of his life, with the F4U Corsair being his favorite. 2nd Lt. Donaldson continued to improve his aviation skills and knowledge by attending numerous flight schools. He attended the Naval Justice Program at the U.S. Naval Academy. In January of 1951, he was promoted to the rank of Captain, and he was subsequently transferred to Carrier Air Group, Fleet Marines Fleet Pacific, Marine Corps Air Station El Toro. Attached to VMF(N)-513, Captain Donaldson flew over thirty-three missions against the supply routes of North Korea and was awarded the Air Medal at the forward airbase of 1st Marine Air Wing. In May of 1955, Cap. Donaldson was presented with permanent citations and Gold Stars for his service.

On June 30, 1956, Cap. Donaldson resigned his commission and was given his Honorable Discharge. Upon his departure from the USMC, Cap. Donaldson was a highly decorated officer. He had been presented with the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, PUCW 1*, American Defense, WWII Victory Medal, Asiatic Pacific 1*, Korean Service Ribbon 1*, UN Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Presidential Unit Citation with 1*, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign, Korean Service Medal w2*, UN Service Medal, Korean PUC, and the Organized Res. Medal.

After the military, Cap. Donaldson continued to pursue his passion for aviation by accepting a job with the Goodyear Aircraft Corporation, where he continued to gain certifications on numerous aircraft. He then left Goodyear to accept a position with the National Aviation Facilities Experimental Center in Atlantic City, NJ, as an experimental systems pilot. He par-

ticipated in the "Runaway Jetliner" experiment as well as being involved in the development and modernization of the national system of navigation and traffic control facilities. He tested the Doppler radar which is now widely used in airports. In 1967, he was transferred to Dallas, where he became an Air Carrier Inspector with the Air Carrier District Office. He would later become a supervisor. Upon his retirement in 1986, he was recognized as the pilot qualified to fly the most airplanes as First seat.

He is survived by his wife of forty-nine years, Darlene Donaldson; his four sons James, Richard, Robert, and David; four granddaughters; and one grandson. Captain Donaldson dedicated his entire life to his family and country, all the while pursuing his life's calling aviation. So, Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today, let us do so in the memory of Donald C. Donaldson and his many contributions to his family, aviation, air safety, and the people of America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2000

Mr. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday March 8, 2000, I was in my district attending to district business therefore missing roll call votes 29 through 33. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on these roll call votes.

HONORING THE 111TH ENGINEER
BATTALION FROM ABILENE,
TEXAS

HON. CHARLES W. STENHOLM

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2000

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 111th Engineer Battalion, based in Abilene, Texas. This group of soldiers has been mobilized to serve our Nation in Bosnia to enforce provisions of the Dayton Peace Accords.

I include for the RECORD a copy of a resolution that I offered the Battalion as they prepared to leave for Bosnia. I know all of my colleagues would join me in wishing these men and women our best wishes and hopes for a successful mission and a safe return home to their families.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, The 111th Engineer Battalion has been mobilized to serve our nation in Bosnia; and

Whereas, Their mission will serve to enforce the provisions of the Dayton Peace Accords, as well as, to serve as representatives of the United States to many citizens abroad; and

Whereas, The soldiers who serve in the 111th Engineer Battalion, based in Abilene, Texas, represent communities from across the Big Country and this Nation with great pride and distinction; and

Whereas, Not only have these brave individuals made tremendous sacrifices to serve their nation, but so have their families and employers; and

Whereas, We understand the growing unrest in our world today and the importance our military plays in the world scene, be it

Resolved, That I, Charles W. Stenholm, as Congressman for the 17th District of Texas, do officially recognize and extend my best wishes to the 111th Engineer Battalion, their successful mission, and their safe return home, and present this flag flown over the United States Capitol as a symbol of my pride in these distinguished military personnel.

CHARLES W. STENHOLM,
Member of Congress.

THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF KGO
RADIO

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2000

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of KGO Radio, a renowned San Francisco media institution.

I commend KGO for taking its commitment to our Bay Area Community seriously, both on and off the air.

KGO's news team and talk show hosts a trusted source of local information and commentary. The station has an outstanding record in giving back to the community. Perhaps that's why KGO has been Northern California's most listened to station for more than 2 years.

In addition to its seven hours of comprehensive news programming, KGO's programming menu also includes extensive local public affairs talk shows that provide the area with invaluable community forums.

But I am most pleased by enormous, decades-long commitment that KGO has made to its community off the air—efforts that have gone far beyond lip service to have a positive impact on the Bay Area. In 1999 alone, it sponsored and promoted more than 50 community events. For these events, KGO aired more than 1,800 promotional announcements, worth more than \$1,000,000. And, during the same period, it ran more than 3,500 public service announcements worth more than \$800,000. Finally, KGO-sponsored community service efforts raised \$1,950,000 for charitable causes.

Mr. Speaker, let us join in congratulating KGO on its 75th anniversary of serving the Bay Area Community. There is much here to celebrate—whether for the KGO Radio's award-winning news team or its efforts to support its local community; whether for its work in providing important on-air community forums or its willingness to promote local efforts from coastal cleanups to cultural diversity.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION FOR
SAFE SCHOOLS AND SAFE COM-
MUNITIES ACT OF 2000

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Alternative Education for Safe Schools and Safe Communities Act of 2000.

This legislation will assist States and school districts in their efforts to fund alternative education programs and services for students who have been suspended or expelled from school and reduce the number of suspensions and expulsions. This legislation will provide our schools with an important tool in their efforts to ensure safer schools and safer communities while providing vital educational opportunity.

Presently, numerous students are suspended or expelled from school annually. Regardless of the reason these students received a suspension or expulsion—disruptive behavior, verbal abuse, a violent act—they are often left to fend for themselves without any educational services, or worse yet no supervision or guidance. The loss of educational services for these students is a destructive force to their chances to advance academically, be promoted from grade to grade, or to resist the temptation to dropout of school. In addition, students not in school and without any supervision can bring the problems which necessitated their suspension or expulsion to the community—increasing juvenile delinquency and possibly other violence and crime.

Under the Gun-Free Schools Act, schools are required to expel a student for one-year if they bring a firearm to school. In school year 1997–1998, that amounted to 3,507 expulsions. Unfortunately, fewer than half of these students were referred for alternative education placements. In fact, students expelled for firearm violations often do not receive educational services through alternative programs or schools. This lack of continuing education and supervision may put the community at risk of gun violence from these children.

While there are times when students may need to be removed from their school due to behavior, whether violent or non-violent, little is accomplished by risking their academic future through a lack of educational services. This legislation will promote alternative placements for suspended or expelled students so the problems they brought to school do not become problems of the community. The legislation would also require school districts to reduce the numbers of suspensions or expulsions of students. I would like to make it clear that this program's funding should not make it easier to remove students from the classroom in greater numbers, but rather should enhance the ability of school districts to provide continuing educational services for the students they do remove from the classroom.

Specifically, the Alternative Education for Safe Schools and Safe Communities Act of 2000 would authorize \$200 million to assist school districts in reducing the number of suspensions and expulsions and establishing or improving programs of alternative education for students who have been suspended or expelled from school. Additional specifics of the program include:

States would receive allocations based on the amount of Title I, Part A dollars they receive. States would then distribute 95 percent of this funding to local school districts.

School districts would use funding to both reduce the number of suspensions and expulsions and establish or develop alternative education programs.

Students participating in alternative education programs would be taught to challenging State academic standards.

Students would be provided with necessary mental health, counseling services and other necessary supports.

States and school districts would be required to coordinate efforts with other service providers including public mental health providers and juvenile justice agencies.

School districts would have to plan for the return of students participating in alternative education programs to the regular educational setting, if it is appropriate, to meet the needs of the child and his or her prospective classmates.

School districts would have to meet continually increasing performance goals to maintain funding. These performance goals include: reductions in the number of suspensions and expulsions, reduction in the number of incidents of violent and disruptive behavior, and others.

The Department of Education would be required to identify or design model alternative education programs for use by school districts and then disseminate these examples of "best practices."

The future of all our children is too critical to allow those who have been suspended or expelled from school to become the future burdens on our social welfare system, or to have the disruptive and unsafe acts they did in schools take place in the greater community. I urge Members to cosponsor this legislation.

GRANNY D'S CROSS-COUNTRY WALK IN SUPPORT OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2000

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, my colleague MARTY MEEHAN of Massachusetts and I rise to commend 91 year old Doris Haddock—known throughout the country as Granny D—for her cross-country trek in support of campaign finance reform. Granny D began her crusade on January 1, 1999 in Pasadena, California and walked 3,200 miles across the country until she arrived at the Capitol on February 29, 2000.

She traveled through the snow in Maryland, dust storms in California's Mojave Desert, and heat of a Texas summer—all the way to Washington, DC. We are happy to place the attached statement into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, which in Doris' own words, describes how she chose to undertake such an amazing feat.

A native of Dublin, New Hampshire and an activist since the 1960s, Granny D felt compelled to push for campaign finance reform—and thus began her idea for walking cross-country. She has walked 10 miles a day, six days a week and stayed with people she met on "the road." Granny D inspired citizens from around the nation to walk with her for a day or so as she helped raise awareness of such an important issue—campaign finance reform.

In an age where cynicism and low voter turnout has become a norm, Granny D has demonstrated that civil activism is alive and well in America. We join Granny D in support of reforming our campaign finance system by eliminating the unregulated, unlimited campaign gifts known as soft money, applying our campaign laws to sham issue ads, and increasing disclosure. Combined together, these reforms will slam shut the open door that cur-

rently allows anyone—corporations, labor unions, wealthy individuals, even foreign nationals—to purchase limitless influence in our political system.

We believe this is a crucial first step to protect our democracy and thank Granny D for raising awareness of this issue by courageously walking across our nation in support of campaign finance reform. As Helen Keller stated: "I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; I will not refuse to do something I can do."

STATEMENT OF GRANNY D

I have been asked to speak briefly this morning about the spiritual side of my journey across the United States.

I would like to share three brief thoughts.

The first thought is that God often speaks to us with crazy ideas. He is full of them, I think.

When I first received the thought of walking across America for campaign finance reform, I knew it was a rather crazy idea. It would have been easy to brush it off as such, and to change the subject as my son and I drove along that Florida highway where the thought first came.

What is calling, anyway? It is a picture window that suddenly appears, revealing a possible alternative life.

Possible, yes. I indeed might be able to walk the country—as I have kept up my physical conditioning with cross-country skiing and walking. Possible, yes—for such an undertaking (if it were not in fact an undertaking!) might bring some needed attention to the issue. And possible, yes—it might in fact be more interesting than staying at home in my regular routine. One could imagine it working out and doing some good. But a crazy notion!

If God sends us a crazy idea and we toss it off as such, I think He understands. He will be happy to send it along to someone else, or try some other ideas on us later.

If it keeps coming back, slightly revised, earmarked, highlighted, perhaps it is a calling. So we consider it more seriously.

If it seems immediately appealing, however, and we jump for it, is there some test to know if it is a proper calling and not just our own harebrained senility?

Well, I think there may indeed be a test, and that is the second spiritual aspect of my journey that I would like to share.

Despite all my best efforts before I left on my walk to arrange help along the way, I got almost no response from the churches or police departments along the way to whom I sent a thousand letters of self-introduction.

So my first steps were little leaps of faith into the kind heart and soul of America, and my faith was of course rewarded. Most remarkably, though there were troubles along the way, and a hospital stay and so many breakdowns of my support van and so many little traumas and troubles, what I saw on the whole was an opening up of heaven, and a flowing down of all the resources and all the right people I needed.

After my difficult crossing of the Mojave Desert in California, I crossed the bridge into Parker, Arizona on my 89th birthday. The Marine Corps Marching Band was at the bridge, playing Happy Birthday to me. The remarkable part of that story is that they just happened to be there on other business. It also happened to be Parker Days, and they were delighted to have me lead the parade and tell the whole city about campaign finance reform, which I did. When, some days later I walked into Wickenburg, Arizona, it happened to be Wickenburg Days and again I found myself in a parade and telling everyone about campaign reform.